

BLRNARD C STLE URBIN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

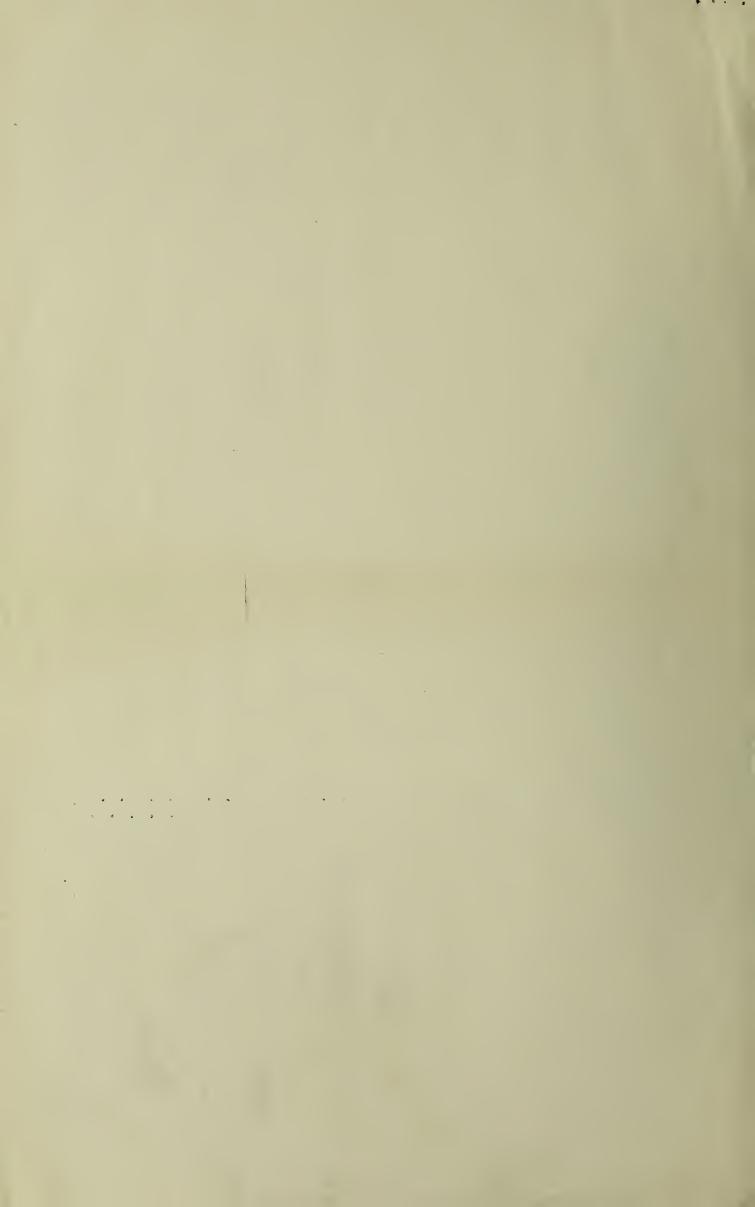
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HELLTH

for the year 1940.

R.C.F.Smith M.D., B.S., D.P.H., F.R.I.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.
Medical Superintendent of
Isolation Hospital.
School Medical Officer.



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I hereby present my report for the year 1940, a year, owing to the War, of vastly increased legistature and L.R.P.duties with resulting heavy calls upon the personnel of all health and administrative services as well as the general public.

Again, owing to the necessity for strict economy, the Ministry of Health has advised curtailment of all reports, hence only a skeleton outline of essential and urgent matters apportaining to public health will be mentioned.

As before the Report Centre at the Rural Office, has been manned by at least thirty four voluntoers, both day and night, a minimum of four being always present. The purpose of this is that should an airraid occur, messages would be received from Wardens at outposts with the result that the staff at the centre would at once initiate the proper measures for civil defence.

Volunteers, from both town and Rural areas deserve our highest praise in the fact that they have conscientiously and promptly attended to their alloted tasks in order to perform any world that an imargency might require.

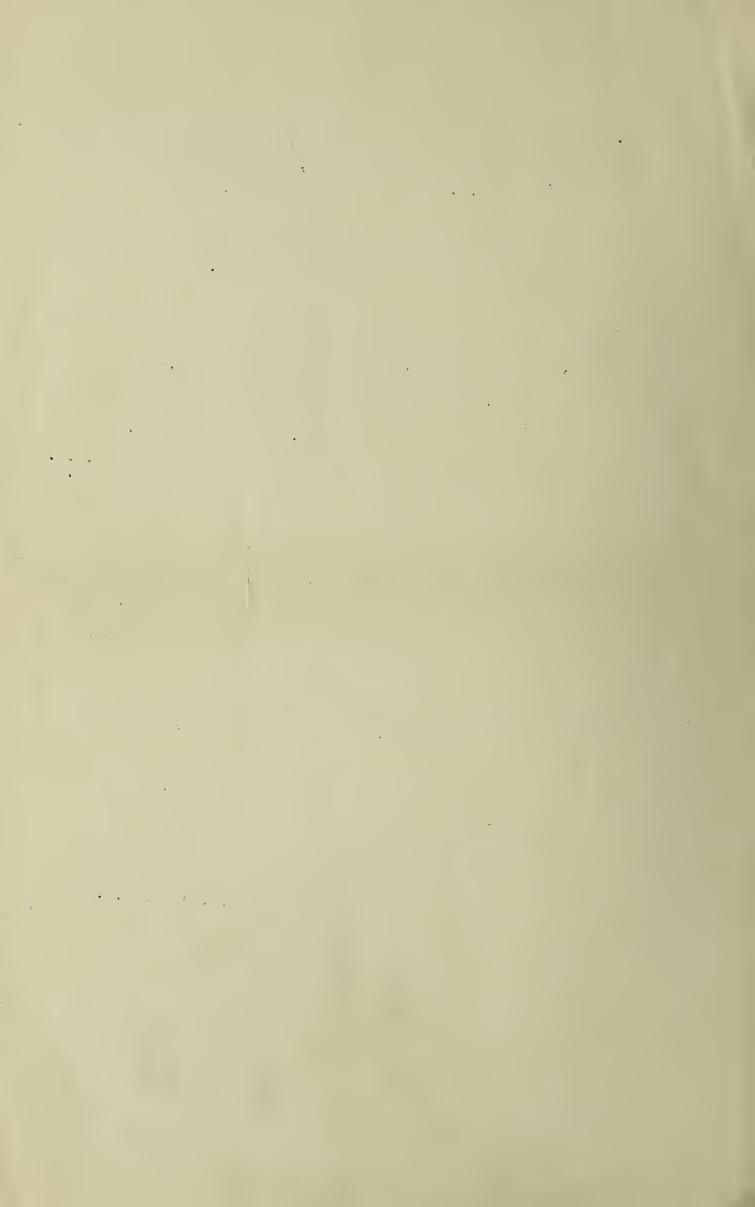
When we recollect the fact that most of these volunteers have their own livelihood to make, our praise cannot be too fulsome. It is a matter of regret however, that in this town, there are young able bodied, healthy fomal is without any special ties, who are so lacking in patriotism and moral sense that they are willing for others to share their burdens and do nothing, in any way whatever, to assist in this most important branch of cavil defence work.

As before, we have in the combined areas, an army of ... H.P. workers 1,000 strong, who, we are proud to know, are giving many hours of their spare time without monetary reward.

All constructave policy is still

in aboyance.

Roganald C.F.Smith, M.D., Medical Officer of Health.



A Synopsis of chiof changes and events during 1940.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The rotable value has increased by £109 on the provious year.

LABORATORY FACILITI S.

Ifter the outbreak of War, a branch of the Laboratory Service of King's College, Newcastle on Tyne was moved to Barnard Castle School. The purpose of this is to assist in the prevention and control of Infectious Dispases occurring among troops, evacuoes and civilians. It has proved its worth on many occasions for quick diagnosis and honce prompt treatment.

SCHOOL NEDICAL SERVICES.

Following upon the out-break of War, Clinies were opened at Barnard Castle, Butterlmowle and Evenwood. These are attended to by your Medical Officer of Health. They have proved their worth over and over again. Dezens of cases of scables, minor skin disorders and other diseases of a more serious type, have been successfully treated at these clinies.

INFLOTIOUS DISTLISES.

Up to the moment there have been but a few cases of infectious despases in the whole of the community. Scarlet Fover, which for years had been excessive, began to decline two years ago and has continued to do so. Thors were only 23 cases. Diptheria also showed a satisfactory dicline. The incidence of Measles, Whooping Cough, Tuberculosis and other infectious diseases was below the av rago. At the instigation of the Ministry of Health, a Dipthoria Immunisation scheme was brought into boung in the Spring. The stops taken word: Consont slips were given to all school children; sanction for the above obtained from the Education Committee; handbills and posters exhibited; slides shown in the cinowas; local doctors informed and their consent to perform the work at an agreed scale of payment obtained; Consent forms were collected, particulars extracted and lists made up for the local doctors to perform the work. The serum was provided free by the Ministry of Health. Two injections was given to each consenting child from the age of 9 months to 15 years. The result was most gratifying. Some 76% of the child population boing immunised and thus giving them 98% protection against Diptheria. Thanks are due to to the School Teachers for their assistance in this scheme.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

There was nothing outstanding in the numbers in both categories. The Death Rate of Infants is still pursuing a satisfactory decline.

WARRA SUPPLIES.

All piped supplies are examined by Eacturelogical methods at regular intervals. There have been no adverse reports. Examination is necessary in case any water bourne disease is brought into the district by troops and evacuoes.

SLAUGHTER UNG.

Barnard Costlo is still the contro for the district for the slaughtering of cettle, sheep and pigs, the

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meet of which is intended for homb consumntion. Alemost slaughtered and the promises are regularly inspected by your Officials. Since the incoption of this method of slaughtering, the promises have been grantly improved as to the general claimliness and the work is now carried out without the danger of causing a pat to become unwicelesoms.

PICHU - H.LLS.

Owing to the black-out regulations with consequential closure of the skits together with the increasing number of troops and evacuoes, made the condition of air in those buildings everheated, foul and permitted and therefore a obtential means of spreading colds, coughs, influence and other disease. Sultable extractor fens have been or ated and there is no cause for complaint.

MUSICUTION AND SUPERVISION OF POOD.

There is nothing untoward to report in the connection. A case of Abertus Fever was traced to a con energing the particular germ in the Milk. Suitable stops were taken and no further cases occurred.

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